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The Inspiration and Authority of Holy Scripture. By J. Monroe Gibson, with an Introduction by Principal Forsythe. New York: Revell, 1912. Pp. xviii+246. \$1.00.

A volume in the "Christian Faith and Doctrine Series," issued by the British Free Church Council under the general editorship of Rev. F. B. Meyer, this book distinctly meets a need which is felt by many ministers and thoughtful laymen today. Dr. Gibson has moved away from the traditional theology to the newer position surveyed by reverent modern scholarship; and after a long ministerial service, he offers competent guidance which, for many perplexed inquirers, will break the force of the transition from old to new. As Principal Forsythe says in the Introduction, religion today is like a business enterprise in which the structure that houses it is being made over. The premises are undergoing reconstruction; but in the meanwhile, the business must be carried on. This volume helps to show how the Christian religion retains its vitality in the midst of the present crisis.

Efficiency in the Sunday School. By Henry Frederick Cope, A.M., D.D. New York: Doran, 1912. Pp. viii+253. \$1.00.

In a volume of twenty-eight chapters, the general secretary of the Religious Education Association supplies a treatise on the Sunday school from the point of view of modern educational study and experience. The book is not a collection of paper theories; it is the application of tested working hypotheses. Some of the chapter headings are: "Educational Engineers in the Churches"; "How to Organize an Efficient Sunday School"; "The Significance of the Graded School"; "Why Some Graded Schools Fail"; "Achieving the Religious Purpose"; "Order and Discipline"; "Music and Worship"; "Extension Work of the School"; "Making the Lesson Real"; "The Adult Department and the Home"; "The Rural Sunday School"; "The Present Opportunity in Teacher Training." The author has had large experience; and the book is one that ought to be in the hands of Sunday-school workers everywhere.

Notes of the Hebrew Text and the Topography of the Books of Samuel. Second edition, revised and enlarged. By Rev. S. R. Driver, D.D. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1913. Pp. xcvi+390.

Twenty-three years show some advance even in biblical studies. The first edition of Dr. Driver's work on the books of Samuel appeared in 1890, and just now we have its revision as a second edition. The improvements and enlarge-

ments are found mainly in the notes on the text, extending them nearly 100 pages. The chief feature of this amplification is the inclusion of material, and four maps of limited areas on large scales, to illustrate and emphasize the topographical background of the Books of Samuel. This is a valuable new contribution to the study of these really topographical books, and the author has laid under contribution the latest and best material on this live theme. Two interesting facsimiles, a "Hebrew Inscribed Tablet from Gezer" and "Part of an Egyptian Aramaic Papyrus, of 484 B.C.," are added to the four of the first edition.

Dr. Driver's well-known thoroughness is seen on every page, and his up-to-dateness in every field of study that touches Samuel gives the student a sense of satisfaction that makes the study of the book a real pleasure. This volume with its full indexes adds a most useful tool to the *apparatus criticus* for the study of this fascinating period.

Studies in the History of Religions. Presented to Crawford Howell Toy by Pupils, Colleagues, and Friends. Edited by David G. Lyon and George F. Moore. New York: Macmillan, 1912. Pp. x+373. \$2.50.

This valuable and various collection of material is a worthy tribute to Professor Toy, in view of his long and fruitful service in the scientific investigation and interpretation of religion. While the contributions are technical, the writers have had a wide circle of readers in mind, and have presented their ideas and facts as untechnically as possible. The subjects considered are brought together from regions and periods far apart; but they are connected by their bearing upon the *historical* aspect of religion. They really treat phases, or aspects, of the same great theme. We mention a few of the papers: "English Witchcraft and James the First," by George L. Kittredge, Harvard University; "Christian and Buddhist Parallels," by J. Estlin Carpenter, Oxford University; "The Liver as the Seat of the Soul," by Morris Jastrow, University of Pennsylvania; "The Sacred Rivers of India," by Edward W. Hopkins, Yale University; "Oriental Cults in Spain," by Clifford H. Moore, Harvard University. These monographs help to emphasize the growing importance of the "religious-historical" school, which is as yet only in its beginnings. That the historical method in this field is bound to widen out still more is admitted by a growing company of scholars. Professor Toy himself, more than twenty years ago, in his *Judaism and Christianity*, wrote: "Religion may be regarded as a branch of sociology, subject to all the laws that control general human progress." The present situation makes these words almost prophetic. The